

Provisional Vital Statistics for March 2006

Live births increased in March as 7,002 babies were born compared with 6,795 in March 2005. However, cumulative births for the 12 months ending with March decreased by 2.2 percent from 78,809 to 77,044.

Deaths increased for all three time periods shown below. For the first quarter of the year, deaths increased by 6.4 percent from 15,385 to 16,369.

The **Natural increase** for March was 804 (7,002 births minus 6,198 deaths). The natural increase declined for all three time periods shown below.

Marriages decreased in March, but increased for the 3- and 12- month periods ending with March.

Dissolutions of marriage decreased in March, but increased for January—March. For the 12 months ending with March, the marriage to divorce ratio increased from 1.87 to 1.91.

Infant deaths in March were the same for each of the last two years, 58. For the 12 months ending with March the infant death rate increased slightly from 7.7 to 7.8 per 1,000 live births.

PROVISIONAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR March 2006

<u>Item</u>	<u>March</u>				<u>Jan.—Mar. cumulative</u>				<u>12 months ending with March</u>				
	<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		
	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Live Births	6,795	7,002	13.8	14.7	19,963	20,370	13.8	14.1	78,809	77,044	13.4	13.7	13.3
Deaths	5,015	6,198	10.2	13.0	15,385	16,369	10.6	11.3	53,312	53,875	9.6	9.2	9.3
Natural increase	1,780	804	3.6	1.7	4,578	4,001	3.2	2.8	25,497	23,169	3.8	4.4	4.0
Marriages	2,442	2,268	4.9	4.8	6,300	6,834	4.3	4.7	40,599	41,209	7.1	7.0	7.1
Dissolutions	1,872	1,650	3.8	3.5	4,914	5,511	3.4	3.8	21,705	21,617	3.8	3.8	3.7
Infant deaths	58	58	8.5	8.3	157	176	7.9	8.6	604	601	7.5	7.7	7.8
Population base (in thousands)	...	...	5,800	5,840	...	...	5,800	5,840	...	...	5,728	5,770	5,810

* Rates for live births, deaths, natural increase, marriages and dissolutions are computed on the number per 1000 estimated population. The infant death rate is based on the number of infant deaths per 1000 live births. Rates are adjusted to account for varying lengths of monthly reporting periods.

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